42. C.

Sulphur - Mosses -

A very good spray - & convincing the importance of Sulphur fumigations Whatever may be the theory by wh. we may explain their effects —

Sulphur

Caspar Morig

1826

To the
Medical Professors
in the
University of Pennsylvania

This first fruit of their labors in his behalf is respectfully inscribed

by their grateful pupil
Caspar Morris

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An Essay
toward
a description of the
Medicinal properties
of
Sulphur —.
By
Caspar Morris
of Montgomery Cnty Pa.

The time has long since passed when every diligent student of Medical Science had it in his power to add some fresh fact of importance to our knowledge of diseases or to bring into view some ~~fresh fact~~ new remedy by which when understood it may be alleviated; and all that falls to the lot of its most sedulous cultivator at the present day, is so to digest the great mass of information handed down by the unwearied diligence of his predecessors, that he may be able when called upon to apply in practice that which he may have acquired in study, to evidence that our Science is not one of probabilities, neither are its professors a set of dupes or impostors; despairing therefore to be able, either from minute investigations or a happy combination of accidental circumstances, to strike out new ideas, I have satisfied myself with diligently investigating the Medicinal properties of Sulphur, and endeavoring to ascertain its claim to the high rank it formerly held in the estimation of men of sound judgement and close observation —: Among the Ancients, especially the Chemists, it enjoyed great reputation

and why it fell into neglect I have been unable to discover since so long as they mention it at all it is with approbation—

In tracing its history every one must be struck with the decided testimony given as to its power over diseases of the Lungs. as Phthisis, Asthma, Ulcerations &c; in these it maintained its ground during many centuries and received the sanction of Dioscorides, Fallianus, Hoffman, Culpepper, Thomas, and in fact of nearly all the writers till within a century, even those who opposed the Chemical Practitioners— I have had no opportunity of testing its virtues in these diseases; but from what I have seen I can readily suppose it might be found useful in many cases which at a time when from their almost entire ignorance of Pathology great incorrectness would creep into their Nosological distinctions, would be classed under the general heads of Consumption, Asthma, &c— Without laying any stress however on the ease with which, even at the present time, disease of the Liver may be confounded with those of other organs, and especially the Lungs, I shall proceed on the supposition that it has actually been serviceable in some cases of disease in those viscera, and endeavor

to prove by fair induction, at least the possibility, that such may have been the fact.

I believe there are few at the present day, ~~who~~ ~~are~~ at all conversant with the general economy of nature, who hold the idea, that a gland of the size of the Liver, so placed as to drain as it were a great part of the blood of the body, should have no other service to perform than the secretion of a fluid for the purpose of stimulating the intestines —

Considering it, with Richerand, as a grand assistant of the lungs, performing in a different way the same operation, viz, the Decarbonization of the blood, and regarding this as a vital, not chemical action, may we not rationally suppose that in the early, and forming stages of Pulmonary affections, any thing which will gently stimulate the Liver exciting it to brisker action may by relieving the lungs of a part of their duty produce a happy change in the situation of the Patient — In addition to this when we take into view that in such cases the Liver is generally irregular, or deficient in its action and, calculating the advantage to be derived from the improved state of the alimentary canal produced by a regular supply of a necessary stimulus, add it to

the former account, we shall form a tolerable estimate of the advantages which may be anticipated from the use of this article. It was I should suppose on similar grounds that Mercury obtained the eclat it possessed some few years past in like cases, and it has since in great measure lost ground in consequence of its indiscriminate employment. It however would possess one advantage over the latter that whilst the Mercurial preparations, had the effect to debilitate the system, the Sulphur, on the contrary, replaces its lost energies, and restores to it a degree of tone.—

That Sulphur exerts considerable influence over the liver can scarcely admit of a doubt. Analysis of the different Mineral waters celebrated in the treatment of chronic diseases, many of not all of which are dependant originally on various congestions of the abdominal viscera and particularly of the liver, proves Sulphur to enter largely into their composition. The alvine discharges, produced by its use, are such, as would lead to a supposition that there was an increased secretion of bile, their color being yellow and the sensation produced at the anus by their evacuation being the same as that in cases of bilious diarrhoea — Sulphur is by Hippocrates recomm.

ended in Hysterical affections: and its action on the liver may be inferred from this circumstance. Considering it as a chronic disease and probably caused by venous congestions of that organ what would be more likely to relieve it than any thing which by exciting the action of the hepatic glands should thereby occasion the blood to flow more rapidly through the Portal vessels, in the first instance to supply the increased demand in the liver and may not the stimulus of the bile to the Intestines produce a secondary action on the principle of revulsion?— But three cases have come under my notice directly in point— The first was that of a Gentleman about 50 years of age who had for a long time been subject to very violent attacks of Bilious Cholic, for which he had been treated in the usual way for many years with no other effect than the palliation of the immediate fit.— By the representations of some of his friends he was induced to have recourse to Sulphur, taken in the absence of pain, and in a short time was entirely relieved from his trouble.— Some visitant.— Encouraged by its success in this instance — — a highly valued friend of my own after having

for years suffered from its attacks resorted to the same means.
He took 5 ss per diem in divided doses, when he was in perfect health, and a larger quantity when feelings of uneasiness in the Epigastrium warned him to be on his guard. After commencing this course he never had but the one severe attack.
It may be objected to these cases that nature herself would perhaps have ~~brought about~~ wrought the same effects and that the apparent benefit derived from the Sulphur would have resulted from her unaided efforts. To this I reply that in both cases the tendency to the disease had existed for years without any symptoms of abatement, and that tho' great disparity existed in their ages, each had passed that at which nature generally brings about such effects.
We have here two cases in which diseases purely bilious were relieved by a steady perseverance in its use; another much to the same point will be detailed subsequently. Since writing the above I have been informed that Dr Samuel Jackson, of Northumberland in this State, has used Sulphur with very manifest advantage, in several cases of a disease the symptoms of which are very closely allied to those of Cholera Pictonum;

but where the agency of lead could not be suspected in their production. Armstrong, in his valuable treatise on Chronic Diseases, after expressing his opinion that most of them depend for their origin on venous congestions of the Brain or Liver, goes on to state, that the most effectual remedy he has found in their treatment, has been a recourse to some of the mineral waters into which sulphur enters largely as an ingredient. He says further, "Cases of Chronic diseases fell under my observation at various times, in which the Sulphurous waters were decidedly beneficial, and that where the bowels were scantily moved: and as the effect in these cases could by no means be attributed merely to their action on the intestines, I was led to enquire whether it might not have some other agency which had escaped my observation. In attending more closely to the changes which this water induces, I found it acted most powerfully on all the secretory organs, especially on the Liver, Kidneys, Villous coat of the Intestines, and Skin. Here a new operation was presented to my enquiry. In reflecting on the facts which had come before me I ascertained

that the water had removed chronic affections of both internal and external parts, and hence at length the inference follows that it was really beneficial as a powerful alterative; and that it had a direct influence over chronic inflamation wherever it be seated - whether in the viscera or on the surface of the body - to the then gas or to ascribe the virtues of these waters to Sulphuretted hydrogen gas and further says "Mercury has ever been esteemed the most powerful alterant used and most practitioners are now convinced that its efficacy in acute as well as chronic cases consists in its effects on the secretory organs: now in this gas we have as powerful an agent as Mercury, we know on the excretory organs but with this difference, that whilst long continued action of the one breaks down the strength, that of the other invigorates the system".

I shall now proceed to sum up the conclusions I wish to be drawn from the preceding facts and observations —

First, that in Sulphur and some of its preparations, we possess an article valuable in the Materia Medica, possessing considerable influence over the Biliary apparatus and through the medium of its extended sympathies, and particularly the cutaneo hepatic, over the

system generally, and more especially the secretory organs. and that Secondly: possessing all these valuable properties it is more than probable that it highly deserves the reputation formerly held in Pulmonary affections. With these views I should think its employment might be advantageously extended to Marasmus, and some other complaints dependant on the Strumous diathesis, and the Practice of Approcrates, revived in cases of Hysteria. To the Physician the nation entrusts its hopes and domestic life its comforts; how much then does it behoove him to seize on every thing which affords even the shadow of a prospect of benefit, particularly in cases which like those just mentioned compose the "Opprobria Medicorum" — In these diseases it has chiefly been used in the form of Flowers, Lac, or some such other only valuable as presenting it in a state of extreme mechanical division, and as nearly as maybe free from acid or other impurities. — In the same form it has long enjoyed in domestic practice considerable reputation in Intermittent Fevers, and in those cases of long standing kept up either by the force of habit, or from visceral obstructions which resist, or are even aggravated by the employment of

Bark, perhaps on solid foundation. I have met with a case in illustration — McClaskey had been afflicted for 10 Months with Intermittent, resisting the usual modes of treatment. It had rapidly changed its type, which was Quotian, when I saw him —.

He had an irritated pulse, foul tongue, a dull heavy sensation at the Epigastrium, Enlargement of the liver, and oedema of the lower extremities. I gave him Ipecac. Pulv. Rad. ℈j, which purged him freely but did not vomit; he then took Sulph. Sublimat ʒj. every 4 hours, which purging him freely, half the quantity was directed at the same intervals; and in ten days I had the happiness to see him free from intermittent paroxysms, his oedema gone, and the tumor in the right hypochondriac very much reduced. We have here a case in which a train of symptoms, evidently dependant on chronic disease of the liver, yielded promptly to the steady employment of an article from which no unpleasant consequences can arise; and even if it were found unavailing in all other cases, the benefit resulting from its use in such as the preceding, with which our country has been deluged, by the late epidemics would be sufficient to establish its claim as a highly valuable article in the Materia Medica — the same form however it is much use.

by Dr Physick and others in cases of habitual constipation. Dr Physick it is highly recommended in Hectic Fever but what may be his particular views as to its modus operandi I am not informed. It has also been considered useful in Gout, Rheumatism (particularly the chronic form) and Dysentery. In accounting for its efficacy in the latter we may call to our aid the Cutaneo Hepatic sympathy of Johnson, the general effects are such as, a priori, we should suppose useful in this disease. How often is it occasioned by an obstructed perspiration, which at the same time that it produces, directly an increased action, resulting in what is termed Dysentery, in the mucous lining of the intestines, causes a cessation of the Biliary secretion, this however can not continue long; the liver and its veins become surcharged with blood and we have an inordinate gush, not of healthy bile, but a secretion altered in its properties, and tending still more to irritate the already diseased intestines; this is again succeeded by another temporary suspension, and again an increased secretion. That this is the case, is evidenced by the appearance of the stools alternately pure, intermixed mucus, and a dark fœtid discharge, entirely

different, both in appearance and composition from all the healthy secretions — Now in such cases no one doubts the propriety of the celebrated composition of Calom. Opii et Ipecac, with which however all are cautious not to produce Ptyalism, the benefit resulting not from the discharge from the salivary glands, but from its alterant effects on the system generally which this indicates to have commenced — In the Sulphur we have the combined effect of the Calomel and Ipecacuanha; it both acts on the secretory organs, and on the skin, and thus restores that balance in the system, the loss of which constitutes the disease; This reasoning applies with still greater force to Diarrhea — It has also been supposed to possess considerable anti-mercurial agency, and though it is entirely consistent with the views I have taken, yet I fear that its powers in this way have been overrated — Whilst engaged in preparing this essay I have been informed by one of my medical friends that Dr Buchan a very respectable London practitioner is employing it very extensively in his practice and looks upon it as quite a "Sampson" in Medicine — It is beyond doubt our best aperient in cases of hæmorrhoids not only palliating but tending to their cure —

I shall next consider it as an external application in this way it has long been used in diseases of the skin in the form of unguents either alone, or in combination with Potash, or other ingredients. The extreme filthiness however of these applications renders them nearly as loathsome as the diseases they are intended to remove; and even though we give credit to the late French report as to their superiority over the fumigations, which however I am far from willing to concede, yet granting that they produce a beneficial effect as ~~[illegible]~~ efficiently, and with more speed, the fumes as applied by Gales would still be preferred by every one who in the least regards cleanliness and comfort. This report is as follows —

Liniment of Olive oil 8 parts — Camphor 1 part. cures in 13 days and 3 tenths — Sulphur ointment — of Sulphur sublime 2 parts purified Potash one part — lard 8 parts. mean duration of treatment 11 days and 7/10th — Ointment of sub. carb. Soda 2 parts — Water 1 part olive oil and Sulphur aa 4 parts. — mean duration of treatment 13 days and 7/10 — Bath of sulphuret of Potash dissolved in water — 17 days and 3/10 — Sulphurous fumigations require 21 days and 4/10 and the report adds that the fumigations are very expensive —

It is much to be regretted that fashion should exist in medicine yet that it does can not be denied and I am disposed to attribute a part of at least of the failure of the Fumigation to a change in the opinions or wishes of the observers which very probably results from its having failed to perform the wonders promised for it by its recover illustrious Dales — Experience were it unimpeached by prejudice would be the same in like cases all the world over. but how can we reconcile the difference which exists between this report and that of Dr Emerson who says he has repeatedly cured cases of simple Itch by no more than 3 applications — as a general rule it will be found that the contagious principle, be it a secretion or animalculae, will be destroyed by 2 applications, often by the first, and very rarely need more than 3; yet it is always safer to continue them a few times longer by way of placing it beyond doubt —

So far as I have been able to ascertain, the method of applying Sulphurous fumigations to the external surface of the body was first treated of by Glauber, so early as the commencement of the 16th Century, who speaks of them in the following terms — Sucher nonnonnus que tous les esprits Dal, surcudes Sont

très efficaces comme toutes les obstructions des parties internes, comme sont celle du poumon, de la ratte, du foie, et surtout, pour les parties nerveuses refroidies, parce qu'ils échauffent puissamment, ils ammolissent, attenuent, chassent et nettoyeront ainsi a cause de ce que depuis, que ces esprits sont un medicament rare et precieux contre la contraction des membres, la paralysie, la melancholie, le secrbut, le Epilepsie, la hypochondriasme, la berolle, la galle, et contre toutes sorts d'ulceres chancreux, fistuleux, et rongeans"—. For some causes we heard no more of them from this time until the year 1812, when Mons Gales chief apothecary to the hospital of St. Louis took up the tracts in cases of itch; thereby acknowledging himself to have caught the idea from Glauber, and with a great want of ingenuousness, while he attempts to ~~depreciate~~ depreciate the value of Glauber's apparatus, arrogates to himself the discovery of its usefulness in the very disease for which Glauber recommends it so highly—. Thus he says, "among the great number of patients afflicted with Itch who were submitted to the fumigations whilst the committee of the academy were observing their effects, there were some in whom it was complicated

with Pouring, Tineas, Herpes, Syphilitic pustules, or Rheumatic pains at the close of the treatment — some of these patients found themselves entirely cured of all their maladies; others in a fair way of healing, and nearly all, manifestly improved — and again "I trust I am to "chance" rather "than to reason the extension which I have given to the employment of my method of treating other diseases" &c. — It is however to Mons. Gale's that we owe its introduction to the attention of modern practitioners and I think, as is mostly the case, its merits were much exaggerated in the outset, yet the experience of every day confirms its reputation as a means, like all others liable to failure yet ~~should~~ not on that account to be depreciated — The apparatus used by Glauber, of which a plate may be found in his treatise "Sur les fourneaux philosophiques" as translated into French by Du Teil, consisted in an oblong box placed upon one end — through the top was a hole through which the man's head was projecting and his neck was surrounded by cloths tucked between it and the edges of the opening to prevent the escape of the fumes: one side was fixed on hinges, and provided with a fastening to act as a door and near

the bottom one of the chairs was perforated by a hole to admit the neck of a retort, the bodies of which, containing a quantity of Sulphur, was heated so as to produce a slow combustion of its contents. Within it was a seat, which might be elevated or depressed according to the height of the subject, and a pan of hot coals. This apparatus was sufficiently complete as respected the introduction of the vapour; but great difficulty was no doubt experienced in the removal of the patient no plan being adopted by which to draw off the fumes which in consequence escaped when the door was opened to permit the egress of the patient to his great annoyance, and that of the attendant. Pale's first mode of application was still more objectionable as in addition to this difficulty both the patient and the bed clothes were liable to be scorched by the pan of hot coals which having Sulphur and nitre (the latter with a view to promote the combustion of the former) sprinkled on it was introduced along side the patient as he lay in bed; the blankets being tied round his neck to prevent suffocation but despite all their precautions the subject of the operation himself, the surrounding patients, and the nurses, were so

much incommoded by the escape of the acid gas, that this plan was abandoned for one, which, though the invention is claimed for one of Mr Gales friends, is so essentially the same as Vauban's that it will be difficult to describe the difference. It was made sufficiently large to contain several patients, and instead of the stove a small furnace was placed under one end in such a manner, that it at the same time warmed the air of the box, and caused the combustion of the sulphur, which was introduced into an iron vessel placed over the furnace and having communication with the box by a large opening in its side, through an iron pipe one end of which entered the vessel and the other was provided with a stop cock to prevent the escape of the gas. The chief improvement consisted in an escape valve, which should communicate with a chimney having a strong draught, so that by unclosing it the box might be very speedily evacuated should any thing render it necessary. This apparatus still continues in use, and is found to answer sufficiently well. Gales first experiments were in cases of Psora, from which he was induced to extend it to the more serious forms of cutaneous eruptions

such as Finea Hesper &c. But in these its success is more equivocal though he gives a number of cases treated under the surveillance of the Committee of the Academy appointed to ascertain the value of the practice — Dr Emerson and Pérard, who have employed it the most extensively in this country, have also succeeded in some few instances though in many others it has failed — Neither is it always successful in cases of a Porrea character — I have myself had three cases of a disease, only differing from genuine Porrea in its locale, all infected from the same source in two of which the fumes produced no effect whatever, whilst the third, was cured by a very small number of applications — It is proper to remark, that the two other cases resisted all other modes of treatment, continuing unabated for years when it gradually disappeared —

Considerable difference of opinion has existed respecting the modus operandi of the fumes the whole effect being by some attributed to the Sulphurous acid gas generated, while others, consider it dependant on the effect of the Sulphur, which is drawn off in substance, and deposited on

the surface of the patients body, where it acts in the same manner as when applied in the form of Unguent — Either of these hypotheses will account for its effect in diseases of the Skin but neither in the Constitutional affections in which I shall hereafter demonstrate its efficacy — In accounting for these we must call in the agency of Cutaneous Absorption or Sympathy — I myself am inclined to the latter; for admitting the existence of this function (the absorbent) it can not act in this case; as the Skin is continually bathed in profuse perspiration carrying off with it any material substance which may be deposited — Regarding the agency of the Sulphurs in substance or the gas here, as in most cases of Controversy I am inclined to think "Veritas in Medio posita" with some inclination however to the side of the gas —

Not the least of its merits consists in its influence over Paralysis a disease whose Pathology is little understood — I have seen two cases in which it was evidently connected with and dependant on acute Hepatic disease commencing immediately after, and disappearing with, that affection to which alone the treatment was directed — At all events

stimulating applications to the skin have generally formed a part of the treatment adopted in this disease; and the fumes certainly act powerfully and universally in this way — The following is one of many cases narrated by Fabri in his work has never I believe been translated —

Madam Royer aetat 57. living in St Marlens St, Mons, was taken in the month of May 1814 ~~was taken~~ with an universal paralysis which the various means ordinarily employed failed to cure. After three months trial of them the patient decided on the 5th of July to make use of the fumigations — The 22nd of August after having been exposed to them 27 times she was able to walk easily without any limping and even to do errands into the city, to eat with the aid of her own hands, to thread a needle, and sew, which was entirely impossible before — From the commencement her appetite improved, and she was able to sleep better — Flattered by this great improvement, in so short a time, she declined the continuance of the fumigations but afterward renewed them — Forty were sufficient to make a perfect cure. — Mons. Lecoq dean of the faculty of Medicine

of Paris and several other physicians can prove the state of the patient before the use of the remedy and have watched the progress of the cure visiting her two or three times a week. Professor Valle has also seen her and is perfectly satisfied of her restoration to health. The authority here given is such that one can hardly dispute the authenticity of the case and with 6 or 8 other given forms a mass of evidence which fully refutes in the use of fumigations in a disease yielding with difficulty to any mode of treatment.

John Brown a seaman received on board, on the voyage from America to France, a severe contusion occasioning Paralysis of the right inferior extremity. At the end of the second week, by which time the inflammation resulting from the injury had subsided, he was admitted into one of the French Hospitals, where he was fumigated 90 times, about an hour each application, in which time he recovered completely. — Henry Hobby was admitted into the Pennsylvania Hospital, the commencement of April, affected with universal Paralysis following an attack of Small Pox. His articulation was so indistinct

as to be scarcely intelligible and when placed ~~in an~~ upright he was able with the help of crutches to support himself so for a few minutes. When first admitted he was put upon the use of Dr. McNaughton's tincture: he continued using this during two weeks without any apparent effect: at the end of which time he commenced with the fumigations to which he was exposed half an hour each time once every day during three weeks at which period they were unavoidably suspended for a short time But in this little while so manifest was the improvement of his condition as to justify the most sanguine anticipations of ultimate success; he had entirely lost a tremor which was very evident before, his articulation was improved and instead of its being necessary as at the commencement that two men should assist him into the bath he was able to enter it himself. At the end of two weeks which was the time which they were suspended no further improvement had taken place and they were renewed and he is now under their operation daily improving. It must also be stated that he continues the use of the

Pt Nuc. Vomic. in the original quantity — As he was treated for the Small Pox in the County at a distance from the city I have been unable to ascertain any of the symptoms or treatment.

In Rheumatism it is also decidedly useful. A great many cases are detailed by Gallis but as several have come under my own notice I shall not extract any from his memoir — W. Brown a sailor aetat 50 was admitted into the Pennsylvania Hospital in Nov. last having considerable pain in his Elbow and wrist joints flying occasionally into his shoulders. his pulse was feeble and his whole aspect such as to plead depletion but as the question made about 12 applications of the fumes by the 2nd of which he was very much relieved and at the end of the whole number he was entirely freed from all traces of the disease; though the sweating induced was profuse it had not the effect to weaken him on the contrary he became stronger and heartier after each application

— Lawson aetat 35 was admitted into the house in June 1824 laboring under an attack of Diarrhoea

of which he was cured by the usual means. He however continued in the house complaining of great pain and weakness in his joints and limbs: he confined himself entirely to his room and was considered by the attending Physician as a Hypochondriac: he was put under a variety of treatment. Opium, Mercury &c were liberally given but without any effect. It was at last determined to try the fumigation. On putting him into the apparatus I found his skin covered with Scars and blotches the result of secondary Syphilis to which I also attributed his Pains and Hypochondriasis: he was very much relieved by the fumes tho' though as in the last Case the sweating was profuse he also grew stronger after each application. After having taken twenty finding himself nearly well he left the Hosp. I heard of him two weeks after to which time he continued to improve —

C. M.c G. Aetat 22. was admitted into the Hospital in October 1824 having a very unpleasant and universal pustular eruption for which he had been treated before entering the house by two of our most respectable practitioners. He had exhausted a long list of unguents and cerates and washes and at length

was subjected to the fumes by 20 applications of which he was entirely cured both of the Cutaneous disease and of very acute Rheumatic pains which he had at the time of commencing. Many cases to the same point might be cited but we have already of testimony "satis superque"

An argument in favor of its constitutional or sympathetic action may be drawn from the circumstance that in cases of Cutaneous eruption where the face and head are affected in common with the rest of the body it is not necessary that the fumes should be applied to those parts the local disease yielding to the general application. It is in this way that Sulphur has been treated but as it subjects the patient to some inconvenience from the destruction of the cuticle and a considerable pain in the scrotum in the Male and Vulva in the female some more for its local application is certainly to be desired. I think I have accomplished this ~~apparatus~~ object by an apparatus which answers to the following description — The patient is seated on a low stool near a chimney the usual opening to which is closed by a board near him on another stool

is placed a spirit lamp or pan of coals over which supported on a tripod is to be placed a sheet iron receptacle in the top of which is an opening through which to introduce the Sulphur. and from the upper part proceeds a short pipe to be connected with a flexible tube entering a cap of oiled silk closely bandaged round the patients head. this cap is connected by means of another and larger tube or pipe with a hole in the chimney board.

In conclusion may we not be entitled from the foregoing facts and inferences to the ~~conclu~~ Inference.

That Sulphur taken internally exercises considerable influence over the glandular system and through its medium, over many of our diseases

That Sulphurous fumes though not Catholic as a cure are useful remedial agents particularly in diseases of the Skin. Paralysis and Rheumatism.

And to hope that each may in a little time give more the attention of medical Practitioners

Since concluding the foregoing Essay two cases have come under my notice which may perhaps be worthy of narration

The one was that of Franklin Stillman who had been afflicted with secondary Syphilis during two years. One of the nasal bones had been destroyed. He had ulcers on various parts of his body and extremities but the most unpleasant symptom was an affection of his face. Pustules made their appearance the matter from which coagulated into large yellow scabs which were continually pushed forward by fresh ones formed below so that his face was constantly covered with piles of filthy scabs sometimes projecting as much as half an inch. As one set were pushed or rubbed off another was formed, not only disgusting in their appearance and unpleasant to the touch but at the same time emitting a most foetid odor.—

Many plans had been ineffectually tried for his relief. He had been salivated — had taken large doses of Keyserling's Panacea and used immense quantities of other anti Syphilitic ~~[illegible]~~ medicines — He had been slightly benefitted by a long continued use of the Solution of the Iodide of Potash but not

sufficiently to cherish a hope of an ultimate cure. Under these circumstances resort was had to the Sulphurous Fumigations by a few applications of which he has been much benefitted the Ulcers were rapidly contracting — the old Scabs were gradually falling off and were not succeeded by newly formed ones and the skin in many places had assumed its natural appearance — At this juncture by an unfortunate accident we were obliged to suspend the application of the Fumes during two weeks in which time he became much worse. Not discouraged however recourse was again had to them so soon as the removal of the prohibitory circumstances permitted — and he is now again improving.

The other case is that of a man who has been several Months in the Hospital under treatment for ophthalmia which was suspected of Venereal origin He had twice been Salivated and had exhausted the list of Collyria mild and stimulating — Setons issues and Blisters had failed and it had settled into a chronic form accompanied with a constant tearing which excoriated the

Check — By Eight or Ten applications he was entirely relieved. — In this case it is most likely the benefit resulted from the local application of the sulphurous gas to the Conjunctiva —